THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD), (a) and (b) Neither the International Airport Authority of India nor the National Airports Authority has any plan, at present, of constructing a new domestic airport at New Bombay.

Conference regarding GATT Convened by Drug Companies

*450. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the Rashtriya Sahara of 26th July, 1994 regarding conference on GATT convened by drug companies;

(b) if so, what are the names of bulk drugs which arc under patent and which accounted for more than Rs.50 lakhs imports during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(c) what was their quantity and CIF value of import during the above period and what was the percentage increase;

(d) whether it is a fact that representatives of the Ministry attended this Conference, if so, the names and designation of each representative; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that the Conference propagated that inventor would not sell medicines at high prices based on certain grounds, iF so, what was the conclusion of the Conference on drug prices and what is the reaction of the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) to (e) The said newsitem has been seen. The Indian Patent Act, 1970 does not provide for product patents for drugs and as such no analysis has been made regarding import of drugs under Patent. Experts presented their views in the Seminar, on "The Post GATT Agenda for the Indian Pharmaceuticals Industry". The officials of this Ministry as well as some other Ministries were also invitees to this Seminar organised by the Organisation of Pharmaceuticals Producers of India and the Confideration of Indian Industry on 25.7.1994. There was no conclusions as such. However, generally the views expressed in the Seminar were that there would not be any generalised increase in the prices of patented drugs on account of the GATT Agreement. The Government views are as stated in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3069 answered in the House on 18.8.1994.

Delay in Tabling Reports by Ministry of Defence

*451. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report published in Indian Express dated the 8th August, 1994 under the caption "Defence Ministry sits tight over inconvenient report";

(b) if so, what is the response of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that number of reports which should have been Tabled in the House are lying on the shelves; and

(d) if so, the details about the reports not yet Tabled in the House and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHR1MALLIK.ARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Reports prepared by General Henderson Brooks and the Arun Singh Committee are sensitive documents. It would not be desirable to make them public.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Docs not arise in view of (c) above.